

**Claims**

1. A method of inducing apoptosis in cells by overexpression of the C1D gene.
2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the cells are tumor cells.
3. The method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the C1D gene product comprises the amino acid sequence of fig. 1 or 2 and/or an amino acid sequence differing therefrom by one or several amino acids, the DNA sequence of the latter amino acid sequence hybridizing with the DNA of fig. 1 or 2.
4. The method according to any of claims 1 to 3, wherein the cells are transfected with an expression vector comprising
  - (a) the DNA of fig. 1 or 2 or a DNA differing therefrom by one or several base pairs, the latter DNA hybridizing with the DNA of fig. 1 or 2, or
  - (b) a DNA related to the DNA from (a) via the degenerated genetic code.
5. The method according to any of claims 1 to 3, wherein the C1D gene which is included endogenously in the cells is stimulated.
6. The method according to claim 5, wherein the promoter of the endogenous C1D gene is stimulated by extracellular factors.